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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ADP-00 CIAE-00 PM-09 INR-10 L-03

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S E C R E T USNATO 1707

E. O. 11652: GDS, 12-31-81

TAGS: MCAP, NATO, TU

SUBJECT: AD-70 - SPECIAL PROBLEMS OF SOUTHERN FLANK

1. TEXT OF MEMORANDUM SUBMITTED 3 APR 73 TO CHAIRMAN OF
EXECUTIVE WORKING GROUP OF AD-70 BY BAYTOK, DEFENSE COUNSELOR,
TURKISH DELEGATION TO NATO, IS AS FOLLOWS:

BEGIN TEXT: TURKISH INPUT TO THE REPORT TO BE PREPARED ON SPECIAL
PROBLEMS OF THE SOUTHERN REGION WITHIN THE AD-70 CONTEXT
IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE DECISION TAKEN BY DPC REFERENCE A)
AC/281- REPORT(73)8 B) DRC/ D(70)3(REVISED) C) DPC/ D(72)19
D) AC/281- REPORT(73)6 E) DPC/ D(72)30 F) DPC/ D(72)24(1)
G) MCM-10-73 H) DPC/ D(72)33 I) MC/161/72

THE STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE AND GEOGRAPHIC POSITION OF THE SOUTHERN
FLANK HAVE BEEN POINTED OUT IN MANY NATO DOCUMENTS SUCH AS
REFS A, B, G, I. IT IS ALSO A COMMONLY ACCEPTED FACT IN NATO THAT
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IN ORDER TO COUNTER THE PRESENT THREAT FROM WARSAW
PACT FORCES, ALL POSSIBLE ACTION SHOULD BE TAKEN TO CORRECT

THE CRITICAL WEAKNESSES IDENTIFIED IN AD-70 REPORTS ON THE SOUTHERN FLANK. IT IS NOT THEREFORE THE INTENTION TO DWELL ON THIS ASPECT OF THE PROBLEM. IT SHOULD BE KEPT IN MIND, HOWEVER, THAT FROM THE STRATEGICAL POINT OF VIEW THE TURKISH STRAITS IS ONE OF SACEUR'S THREE VITAL AREAS, THE DEFENCE OF WHICH MERITS EVEN THE USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS.

IN THIS CONTEXT, IT IS INTERESTING TO NOTE THAT BOTH GREEK AND TURKISH NATIONAL INTERESTS AS WELL AS THE MILITARY INTEREST OF NATO COINCIDE ON THE ABSOLUTE IMPORTANCE OF NATO CONTROL OF THE BOSPHOROUS AND DARDANELLES. NOT ONLY IS THIS AREA CRITICAL TO SUCCESSFUL SOUTHERN FLANK DEFENSIVE OPERATIONS BUT IT PROVIDES LOGISTICAL SUPPORT TO ALL NATO AREAS BY DENYING THE ENEMY THE OPPORTUNITY OF REINFORCING HIS MEDITERRANEAN OR ATLANTIC FLEETS FROM THE BLACK SEA FLEET.

ALTHOUGH THE COMBINED POPULATION OF TURKEY AND GREECE REPRESENTS ONLY 16 PCT OF THE TOTAL EUROPEAN NATO POPULATION, THESE TWO COUNTRIES CONTRIBUTE APPROXIMATELY 37 PCT OF THE TOTAL EUROPEAN MANPOWER COMMITTED TO NATO LAND FORCES.

SOUTHERN FLANK (GREECE AND TURKEY) TOTAL 1/3 OF THE NATO LAND AREA BUT ARE SEPARATED FROM THE REST OF NATO BY SEA OR THE POTENTIAL ENEMY. THEIR LINES OF COMMUNICATIONS ARE LONG AND DEPENDENT ON FREE USE OF THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA.

WHEREAS TURKEY AND GREECE CONTRIBUTE AN IMPORTANT SOURCE OF TOUGH AND RELIABLE MANPOWER, THE OBSOLETE AND OBSOLESCENT EQUIPMENT CREATES A WEAKNESS IN DEFENSIVE CAPABILITY OF THE LOCAL FORCES IN THE SOUTHERN FLANK. AS A MATTER OF FACT, THE LOCAL FORCES, GUARDING THE VITAL SOUTHERN FLANK, ARE ONLY marginally equipped and supplied for prolonged warfare.

THE QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE DEFICIENCIES IN THE TURKISH LOCAL FORCES, PARTICULARLY IN FIRE POWER, MOBILITY AND COMMUNICATIONS ARE SHOWN IN SHAP'S FORCE CAPABILITIES REPORT.

IN ORDER TO IMPLEMENT THE RECOMMENDATIONS IN REF (B) AND IN OTHER AD-70 DOCUMENTS, A LARGE PROPORTION OF TURKEY'S NATIONAL RESOURCES HAS BEEN ALLOCATED TO THE COMMON NATO DEFENSE EFFORT,
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WHICH HAS PLACED A VERY HEAVY BURDEN ON HER ECONOMY.

AS IS KNOWN, TURKEY HAS RECENTLY ALLOCATED TL 16 BILLIONS TO THE NATIONAL DEFENCE PURPOSES IN ADDITION TO HER EXISTING BUDGETARY FUNDS TO ACCOMPLISH THE AD-70 RECOMMENDATIONS. HOWEVER, THE FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF AD-70 MEASURES FOR THE STRENGTHENING OF THE TURKISH FORCES IS BEYOND THE CAPABILITIES OF HER ECONOMY UNDER THE PREVAILING CONDITIONS AND IS VERY MUCH DEPENDENT ON THE PROVISION OF EXTERNAL MILITARY ASSISTANCE.

REALIZING THIS FACT, IN MANY NATO DOCUMENTS ON AD-70 AND NATO FORCE GOALS, MEMBER COUNTRIES ABLE AND WILLING TO DO SO HAVE BEEN INVITED TO PROVIDE MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO TURKEY IN ORDER TO REMEDY THE SHORTCOMINGS OF HER LOCAL FORCES. HOWEVER, THESE INVITATIONS HAVE PROVED NO SUCCESS IN EXTENSION OF THE MILITARY AID TO TURKEY. ON THE CONTRARY, THE TREND OF THE ALREADY EXISTING MILITARY AID TO TURKEY HAS SHOWN A DECREASE IN RECENT YEARS, AND IS FAR FROM BEING SUFFICIENT FOR THE FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FORESEEN MEASURES.

THE PROBLEMS OF THE SOUTHERN REGION SECTION OF THE AD-70 REPORT TO THE MINISTERS SHOULD CONCENTRATE ON RECOMMENDATION FOR FINDING THE WAYS AND MEANS, IN OTHER WORDS FINANCIAL RESOURCES, WHICH WILL ENABLE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MEASURES.

THE MAJOR ITEM TO BE MENTIONED UNDER THE HEADING OF SPECIAL PROBLEMS OF SOUTHERN FLANK WOULD OBVIOUSLY BE TO FIND OUT A MACHINERY IN NATO TO INCREASE, FACILITATE AND COORDINATE THE MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO THE REGIONAL COUNTRIES. THE VIEWS EXPRESSED IN PARA 29 OF AC/281- REPORT (73)8 ARE SHARED BY TURKISH AUTHORITIES. THEY THEREFORE PROPOSE THIS MATTER TO BE STUDIED EITHER BY AN OPENENDED SUB- GROUP OR BY EWG ITSELF.

WHILE A SUITABLE MACHINERY FOR MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROVIDED ON A WIDER COLLECTIVE BASIS IS BEING SEARCHED FOR, A RECONSIDERATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH ARE STATED IN REF (B) REPORT ON STRENGTHENING THE TURKISH LOCAL FORCES AND WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN TAKEN UP TILL NOW, SHOULD BE WORTHWHILE IN IMPROVING THE WEAKNESSES IN THE SOUTHERN FLANK.

THE FOLLOWING RECOMMENDATIONS TAKE PLACE IN THE CONCLUSIONS PART OF REF (B) AS REMEDIAL MEASURES:

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- A) INTRODUCTION OF THE LOW LEVEL HAWK SAM SYSTEM UNDER NATO INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAMME.
- B) INITIATION OF NATO TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME FOR THE TRAINING OF INSTRUCTORS.
- C) INITIATION OF A NATO WIDE PROGRAMME TO IDENTIFY STOCKS OF SERVICEABLE EQUIPMENT BECOMING SURPLUS IN OTHER NATO COUNTRIES.
- D) INITIATION OF NATO CO- PRODUCTION PROGRAMMES OF SELECTED ITEMS FOR OVERCOMING THE DEFICIENCIES LISTED IN THE REPORT.
- E) INITIATION OF A TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR JOINT AIR- NAVAL TACTICAL SUPPORT.

FURTHERMORE IN PARA 80 OF REF. (B) TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION THAT CURRENT NATO STRATEGY EMPHASIZES THE NEED TO REINFORCE SOUTHERN FLANK AND IN VIEW OF THE ECONOMIC CAPABILITIES OF TURKEY AS COMPARED WITH THE MAGNITUDE OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE

REQUIREMENTS, SOME PRIORITY AND FLEXIBILITY IN APPLYING THE
ELIGIBILITY CRIT

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